

Public Law 96-443
96th Congress

Joint Resolution

Oct. 13, 1980

[H.J. Res. 568]

To authorize and request the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 through October 19, 1980, as "Italian-American Heritage Week".

Whereas the Congress fully recognizes that it is essential for the people of the United States of America to understand and respect the rich heritage of all American ethnic groups if we are to maintain and foster the national unity; and

Whereas the many great contributions of Italian-Americans to our country must be recognized and the deep Western roots of Italian-American culture, history, and traditions must be appreciated; and

Whereas the long recognized American holiday of Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday of October to commemorate the discovery of America by the famous Italian geographer-navigator-explorer, and this day is of special significance to the Italian-American community as a symbol of their essential contributions to American society as courageous immigrants, hard-working citizens, and true American achievers: Now, therefore, be it

Italian-American
Heritage Week.
Designation
authorization.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 through October 19, 1980, as "Italian-American Heritage Week" and calling upon the people of the United States, State, and local government agencies, and interested organizations to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

Approved October 13, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):

Sept. 17, considered and passed House.

Sept. 30, considered and passed Senate.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 16, No. 42:
Oct. 13, Presidential statement.